



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of**

Taniguchi, et al.

**Serial No.:** 09/891,606

**Group Art Unit:** 2834

**Filed:** June 27, 2001

**Examiner:** Tamai, Karl I.

**For:** MAGNETIC BEARING CONTROL DEVICE WITH COUNTER FOR TIMED  
MAINTENANCE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Claims 1-19 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 9, and 18 are amended to more clearly define the invention. Claims 1, 9, and 18 are independent.